

Tape 3

21 JUL 1980

Side A, 1/16 - 1/4

Will somebody get me the name of the Naval War College professor who applied
to [redacted] The name is on the tip of my
tongue but I can't think of it. I'd like to get ~~W/~~ something of his background
to submit to Bruce Clarke as a possible NIO General. [redacted]

I'd like to reach a retired [redacted] who lives on the
Eastern Shore of Maryland. I assume he is in my computer list; if not, the
Navy Department can get it and see if I can catch him on the phone.

To Doris
w/phone no. 25X1

I'd like to know if the library has a book called [redacted]
and if so can I get it for the trip to Wyoming. I may have asked for this before;
I thought I had a note on it here and I've misplaced it, so maybe I've already
done it.

*George H. had a copy of this book
in his safe - the book had been sent
to ADM Turner by the Foreign Policy
Research Institute. Sent it home in
personal mail 21 July 80.*

Paper Says U.S. Bugs Phones

LONDON (UPI) — The United States bugs telephone and telex communications throughout Europe from a secret listening post in northern England that is the largest tapping center in the world, the New Statesman magazine said yesterday.

The left-leaning magazine said the base, at Menwith Hill near Harrogate in Yorkshire, had been kept secret even from the U.S. Congress and was tied into the heart of Britain's communications system in partnership with the British Post Office.

The Defense Ministry denied the report, saying the facility was "a communications relay center for U.S. forces in Europe, its main purpose being to provide communications that are both rapid and secure.

"It does not intercept phone calls or telecommunications in this country nor is its purpose to intercept trans-Atlantic phone calls."

The magazine said the center's "business for more than 15 years has been sifting the communications of private citizens, corporations and governments for information of political or economic value to the U.S. intelligence community."

"And since the early 1960s," it added, "its close partner in an operation of ever-growing technical sophistication has been the British Post Office."

Earlier this year, New Statesman, which has made a speciality of investigative journalism, charged the British Post Office operated a widescale bugging operation called Tinkerbell from a large office building in London. The government denied that report.

The magazine said Menwith Hill base was operated by the U.S. National Security.

Tape 3

Side A, 0- 1/16

21 JUL 1980

REMINDER MEMO

SUBJECT: Next Brzezinski Meeting

Discuss the issue of White House retention of the PDBs in the President's files.

25X1

Cy to



BOSTON GLOBE
17 July 1980

Secret US base reported wiretapping Europe phone calls

By Linda Melvern
Special to The Globe

A secret American base operated by the National Security Agency is listening in on European telephone calls, the British weekly news magazine "New Statesman" reported yesterday.

The article, the result of a five-month investigation, says the base employs more than 800 American civilians and appears to be the biggest telephone intercept center in the West. The base is directly linked to the British telephone microwave relay network that carries international telephone calls in and out of the country, the magazine said.

The British Ministry of Defense denied the base monitors transatlantic or domestic calls in the United Kingdom and said the base serves as a "rapid relay communications center

for United States forces in Europe." The base exists with the "full approval of the British government," the Ministry of Defense told the New Statesman. The London office of the National Security Agency (NSA), which is a branch of the US Defense Department, also said that the station is a communications relay center for the Defense Department.

Charges of wiretapping are not new in Britain. In February this year the New Statesman revealed the headquarters of the British national telephone tapping center in Chelsea, a section of London. This led to questions in the House of Commons. The home secretary, William Whitelaw, subsequently assured Britain that no wiretaps were conducted unless he or a secretary of state signed an authorizing warrant.

According to the New Statesman, their investigation suggests that one of the minor roles of the base involves the interception of Irish traffic. "Some gesture towards assistance with the anti-IRA (Irish Republican Army) campaign might make the existence of the base more palatable to the host government," it states.

A recent statement by a former US Air Force colonel, who supervised some NSA activity during the 1960s, reinforces the point, says the news magazine, that everything going across the Atlantic could be read by the NSA somewhere.

"The NSA has the capacity to, and at varying times does, monitor everything," Col. L. Fletcher Prouty, a retired Air Force officer who served in the Pentagon's Office of Special Operations in the 1960s, said in an affidavit prepared last year.

"For example, transatlantic communications are carried on cable or by satellite. There are three satellites over the Atlantic, each capable of transmitting 20,000 circuits," Prouty said. "There are eight transatlantic cables with about 5000 circuits. NSA monitors all these circuits, collects and records the electronic information transmitted and its computers can pick out the messages it wants by 'key word'."

Menwith Hill, the Yorkshire NSA station, has been in operation for more than 15 years. Three past and present US intelligence officials confirmed the role of the base from first-hand knowledge, says the New Statesman, which also published details of a computer delivered to the base in the early 1960s which is capable of sifting through thousands of calls for those of intelligence interest.

A relay tower at the heart of this countrywide microwave system is just five miles south of the NSA base. The tower, known as Hunter's Stones, is virtually the pivotal link in more than a million miles of microwave radio connections which have been installed in Britain.

It is linked to the NSA base by a high capacity underground cable which is capable, according to experts, of carrying over 32,000 calls simultaneously.

The NSA base commander, Albert D. Braeuninger, in an interview with the New Statesman, did not deny the link to the Post Office network. He said: "We pass information through the U.K. communications system. Our line is cable... It is purely a communications link. We only use the Hunter's Stones power as a customer of the Post Office."

A former British military officer who visited Menwith Hill is quoted as saying: "It intercepts telephone and other communications to and from the United States and Europe and files intelligence dossiers on European political and trades union leaders."

NSA surveillance of international telephone lines was admitted officially when CIA director William Colby appeared before the Pike committee on intelligence in 1975. No details of how, where or by whom this is done have ever been disclosed.

The NSA is under direct control of the United States Department of Defense and its role is described as the protection of US government communications abroad and the collection, decoding and analyzing of intelligence information. Distinct from the CIA, the NSA does not formulate policy or carry out operations.